

Jennings County Commissioners
Government Annex Building, Commissioners Meeting Room
August 27, 2020

All Commissioners were present. Matt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kathy Ertel, EDC, reported that Jennings County was successful in getting the grant money for small businesses through OCRA that was applied for. Anna Walker was instrumental in getting all of the paperwork completed for this. They were awarded \$250,000.00. They will be able to provide up to \$10,000.00 for small businesses in Jennings County. Approximately \$10.5 million was awarded with over 40 applicants. Kathy also reported that Judy Ertel, former Chamber of Commerce Director, has volunteered to help with the grant for anyone who needs help in applying. Applications need to be in between September 8-14.

Steve Graham from Wayside Inn was requesting \$5,000.00 in the 2021 budget as in previous budget. He is also asking the city for the same amount. He gave a brief overview of what the Wayside Inn does. Their annual budget is \$38,000.00; \$18,000.00 goes to utilities; \$12,000.00 to one staff member. All other work is done by volunteers. He said they are very appreciative of the County's support. Tessia informed him that they are in the budget for 2021 and will depend if the Council can fund it.

Nicci Lucas, HR, reported that the governor extended masks to be worn until September 25. She is asking the Commissioners what they want to do as far as the screeners at the annex. She said the current screeners are here for another week. If they are to continue this she will have to look for temporary screeners. She feels the community has been supportive of this. There have been a few people that have been turned away due to elevated temperatures. Bob Willhite said he thinks the screening should continue and made a motion as such. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Matt asked Nicci to follow-up with a report in 2 weeks.

Nicci also asked for approval to fill 2 deputy positions for the Sheriff's Department. These are ones that have or will be leaving soon. This is no increase in the budget and may possibly even be at a lesser rate. Bob made the motion to allow the Sheriff's Dept to fill these positions. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Delbert Vincent was asking questions about the Ordinance passed in July. He was asking if the money from the fines go into General Fund or to the Sheriff's Department. Matt said no violations have been issued and they have not even discussed it. He also questioned if a Sheriff's Deputy comes to his place, which is agricultural and industrial land, he wants to know who he can go to if he has a complaint. Matt and Ellie told him if there is an issue he may come to the Commissioners. He said that 20 years ago he helped redo the books with new ordinances, etc with the APC. He was asking if these override the previous ordinances. Ellie said that these ordinances co-exist. Matt told Delbert if he has a bad experience he may come to the Commissioners.

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Amy Thompson, Clerk, was at the meeting asking about the June 2 election, there was overtime during the training and during the election. She is requesting that the overtime be approved so that this is in the minutes. Matt asked if there are plans for the next election. She said she has been doing calculations and she feels she should be fine. She said that \$8500 was inadvertently left off of the budget that was election extra supplies. That is used for the absentee ballots and other supplies they may need. They have depleted the election supply line in preparing for the primary for those additional envelopes, etc. She is going to the Council to ask for appropriation for that. Provided that is approved she should be fine. She feels there won't be a lot of OT. Bob made the motion to allow OT to be paid. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

She also gave an update on the upcoming election that the Secretary of State will be providing masks and gloves for all workers and masks for every voter in Jennings County. They are also putting up plexiglass at the voting locations. She said they are going back to the original polling locations before the schools were used since school is in session now.

Marie Shepherd, Area Plan, is asking for a building permit for the Recycle Center at 4800 N State Hwy 3 for a shed to be used for oil and antifreeze. All state paperwork is in place. There is a cost of \$126.84 for the permit as the county is not exempt from the fees. This is basically for when it rains the contaminants from the top of these splash off the container and hit the ground. This shed will be used to keep these in to prevent this. Bob made the motion to allow the building permit. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Bob then made the motion to waive the \$126.84 permit fee. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

She also reported that Tuesday at 6 pm the bids will be opened for the demolition of the Butlerville School. There are currently 4 bids and she knows of at least 2 more. Marie asked Ellie if they were going to have the attorney that they hired to review these bids before they are awarded. Ellie is concerned as that attorney was quite pricey. She said they need someone with that expertise as it is a complicated project. Ellie said she and Brad Kage will look over them along with the committee and then go from there. Nothing will be awarded that night.

Matt asked if there were any comments or questions from the audience.

Bob made the motion to approve the prior minutes. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Bob made the motion to sign payroll and claims. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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Matt again asked if anyone from the audience had anything. Zach Walker asked what the Restricted Address Ordinance was that was on the agenda. Matt said Ellie was not able to draft the ordinance so it was taken off. It is for the GIS system, certain officials and people can have their address removed from the system is what it entails. This is actually being done already.

Bob made the motion to adjourn. Dave seconded. Motion passed unanimously.



Tessia Salsman, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, President



Bob Willhite, Vice-President



Dave Lane